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Full of Grace: Little Books Are Big on Beauty, Advice

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HOLY MARY

Full of grace

⇒ Little books are big on beauty, advice



WHAT WAS THE BESTSELLING book in Christendom from 1250 to 1550? It wasn't the Bible, but the Book of Hours.

More than prayer books, these books were used to keep track of feasts, teach children and spread useful advice such as noting that November was the best time to feed acorns to boars. Books of Hours were produced totally by hand until Gutenberg revolutionized printing in Europe with the

mechanical use of moveable type.

Pictured here is a 15th-century Book of Hours, hand-lettered and hand-illustrated, from the collection of UD's Marian Library. This particular book, though beautiful, is a relatively crude example; it's both unfinished and small. That it could fit into a pocket reflects attributes of Books of Hours; they were both personal and highly used.

The heart of any Book of Hours is a series of prayers, known as the Little Office

of the Blessed Virgin Mary or the Hours of the Virgin. The one pictured here is open to the prayer for the canonical hour of Lauds, which is traditionally illustrated with an image of the Visitation.

From Jan. 27 to July 17, the Marian Library Gallery on the seventh floor of Roesch Library will host an exhibit, *Mary in Miniature: Books of Hours in the Marian Library's Collection*.

—JILLIAN EWALT, UD librarian for visual resources

MARIANIST EDUCATION

Equipped to learn



⇒ **THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING** has donated more than 50 pieces of lab equipment for students attending Marianist schools in Togo, Africa.

Brother Tchamie Kadja, S.M. '17, a teacher at the school who is currently on campus pursuing a doctorate in electrical engineering, coordinated the shipment to Robert Mattlé Technical School in Togo. The Marianist brothers had contacted Dean Eddy Rojas, who agreed to provide equipment to the school.

"Due to near constant advances in technology, we have laboratory equipment that is re-

placed on a regular basis," Rojas said. "While not up to current U.S. standards, this equipment is a step up for our partners in Togo and really facilitates learning for their STEM students."

Departments donating equipment included electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, engineering management and UD information technologies. The donation included 16 power supplies, 12 projectors, 19 digital multimeters, eight oscilloscopes and other miscellaneous lab items.

"The school's administration and I are very grateful for

this kind gesture from UD," Kadja said.

Kadja traveled back to Togo this past summer and used UD's donations to complete a physics lab and computer lab for his students. The remaining equipment is being forwarded to two other area schools.

"The brothers are doing quite a good job in education, and we hope our cooperation will continue over time," Kadja said. "This year, the nation's top-performing high school student in science came from Mattlé Technical School."

—HALEY PULEO '20